

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the final Office Action of March 21, 2003 is respectfully requested.

The present response is submitted pursuant to the Advisory Action issued by the Examiner on August 8, 2003. In that Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that claim 10 would be allowable and that claims 6, 8, 9 and 14-16 were objected to.

Accordingly, by the above amendments the same amendments as proposed in the last response had presented, with the following modifications. Claim 5 has been canceled, while claim 6 has been redrafted into independent form. Claim 7 has been canceled, while claim 8 has also been redrafted into independent form. Claim 10 has been presented in the same form as in the last amendment, further. Claim 11 has been canceled, along with dependent claims 12 and 13. However, claim 14 has been redrafted into independent form. Accordingly, only subject matter considered allowable by the Examiner is now present in the claims.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the present patent application clearly distinguish over the prior art cited by the Examiner. Reasons therefore have been explained in previous responses, and the Examiner has indicated that the subject matter was allowable both in the Advisory Action and a telephone conference of August 13, 2003. Accordingly, the present application should now clearly be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that entry of the above amendments and allowance of the application as a whole is in order, and such is requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Sverre Johannesen OVERA et al

By: 

Nils E. Pedersen
Registration No. 33,145
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krl
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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